



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

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FOR RELEASE AT WILL

:30 PSA--HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Last year, Tropical Storm Ernesto took seven lives, destroyed homes and

knocked out power for thousands. It can happen again. Yet, surveys show

that most Virginians are no better prepared for hurricanes today than they

were before watching the devastation that Hurricane Katrina caused.

Now's the time to get ready. Visit vaemergency.com to learn about

simple, low-cost steps you can take to be prepared.

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:30 PSA--HURRICANE EVACUATION (COASTAL AREAS)

If a hurricane is approaching and officials advise you to evacuate, do so

immediately. By leaving early, you avoid crowded highways, flooded

roads, fallen trees or downed power lines. Take a supply of food, water,

clothing, personal hygiene supplies, bedding and medications to last at

least three days. Remember, many emergency shelters do not allow pets

other than service animals, so make an evacuation plan for your pet ahead

of time. Fill your car with gas before gas stations become crowded or they shut down, and follow recommended hurricane evacuation routes. Visit vaemergency.com to learn more.

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:30 PSA--PREPARING YOUR HOME

If a hurricane is approaching and officials have not advised you to

evacuate, take these steps to protect your home from damage. Board up windows or close storm shutters. Tie down or move outdoor objects that could blow away. Store water in clean containers or bathtubs in case water becomes contaminated. Gather enough batteries for your flashlight and portable radio in case of a power outage. Mobile home residents should leave and take shelter inside a sturdy building. Visit vaemergency.com to learn more.

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:30 PSA--FLOOD INSURANCE

Did you know that your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy does

not cover flood damage? Nearly 25 percent of all flood insurance claims come from areas with a low or moderate risk of flooding. Don't delay –

there is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance coverage goes into effect. Protect your home now by contacting a licensed insurance agent. The sooner you get the coverage, the better. Learn other ways to protect your home and family at vaemergency.com

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:30 PSA—FLOODING (INLAND AREAS)

Floods cause more damage and loss of life nationwide than any other natural disaster. In Virginia, hurricanes Gaston, Jeanne and Isabel showed us how vulnerable our inland regions are to flooding. Find out if your area is prone to flooding, be aware of weather conditions and know how to get to higher ground quickly. Avoid driving through flooded areas. For more hurricane and flood safety information, visit vaemergency.com.

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:30 PSA--DRIVING SAFETY

It's a fact: most flood deaths result when people attempt to drive through water. If you come upon a road that is covered by water, turn around and find another way to your destination. The depth of water can be deceptive, and just two feet of water will carry away most vehicles, including SUVs

and pickup trucks. Water levels can rise quickly. If water surrounds your vehicle, abandon your vehicle and climb to higher ground immediately. It could happen to you. Learn more flood safety tips at vaemergency.com

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:30 PSA – WATCH vs. WARNING

When a flood or flash flood watch is issued, there is a possibility of flooding in your area. Continue to listen to this station for weather updates. If a flood or flash flood warning is issued for your area, that means flooding is occurring and you need to get to higher ground immediately. If you are driving and come across a flooded road, turn around and find another way. Once a car is swept up by flood waters, it is often difficult to escape. It could happen to you. Visit vaemergency.com for more flooding preparedness tips.

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:15 PSA--FLOOD INSURANCE

Did you know that your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy does not cover flood damage? The sooner you get flood coverage, the better. Learn other ways to protect your home and family at vaemergency.com

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:15 HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Hurricane season is here, and tropical storms can affect any part of

Virginia. Get ready now for the potentially devastating effects of flooding,

tornadoes and power outages. Visit vaemergency.com to learn more.